

Learning at Schools Breakout 1

Vic and Lesley - Windsor School - Christchurch

Why blog?

New curriculum - confident and connected lifelong learners

Key Competencies

Using I,s,t

P and C

Using blog to share with parents and as a learning tool - learning sites on the blog

In 2008 school got a new principal

Learning together with pride - school vision

In 2nd year of ICT PD contract

Were using KnowledgeNet - but not being used

Excellence in Numeracy and Literacy. A positive and challenging learning environment. Learning through rich task and meaningful learning contexts.

What worked?

Support from leadership

Having "Pioneers"

School wide approach

About the children and them sharing their learning

Provides parents with the opportunity to see what their children are doing

Have someone on hand who knows how to "troubleshoot"

Is it Safe?

"Safety is now about responsibility, appropriateness and common sense as well". Will Richardson

"It's our responsibility to teach them what is acceptable and safe and what isn't". Will Richardson

Vocaroo - free programme

Everyone must post within the first two weeks

Then must post at least twice within a term

Buddy up support

"Just in time PD" sessions

Students as "Tech Angels"

Tips

Teach a few students how to post and get these students to teach others

Junior school teachers, get a buddy class to help your students

Making blogging a "rotation" during literacy or numeracy

Use your class blog as a place to store all the links your class uses – this makes it purposeful and simple for students

Reluctant teachers

Show links to shared clear school vision

Know the teacher (different drivers for different people)

Clear expectations for all staff

Provide purpose, examples and resources

"Just in Time" PD and ongoing support

Share tips and tricks for managing

Pitfalls

Sites blocked by school

Time

Make sure cyber-safety agreements are up to date

Reluctant teachers

Blogger.com

Each class has a blog page, linked to the school website

For "newbies" a blogger account was created and an initial template was set up